DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 167 618 TM 008 432

AUTHOR Klein, Ronald; And Others
TITLE The Development of the Alpha-Omega Completed Sentence Form (AOCSF): An Instrument to Aid in the Measurement, Identification, and Assessment of an Individual's "Adaptational Approach(es)" to the Stressful Event of Death and Related Issues.
PUB DATE Mar 78
NOTE 27p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (62nd, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, March 27-31, 1978); Appendices marginally legible

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$2.06 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Adjustment (to Environment); *Attitude Tests; *Death; Grief; Higher Education; *Test Construction; *Test Reliability; *Test Validity
IDENTIFIERS *Alpha Omega Completed Sentence Form; Kubler Ross (Elisabeth)

ABSTRACT

The Alpha Omega Completed Sentence Form (AOCSF) was developed to identify and measure a person's adaptational approaches to information concerning their own death or the possible death of a significant other. In contrast to the Kubler-Ross stage theory, the adaptational approach recognizes a person's capacity to assimilate new information which will minimize stress. Items were developed by teachers and counselors concerned with death education. A pilot study was conducted with 77 college students who were administered the original pool of 304 items. The pool had a high degree of internal consistency as indicated by Cronbach's alpha correlation coefficient. Next, expert judges selected the best 50 items from the original pool, 10 from each of the five psychological constructs as presented by Kubler-Ross: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. The 50 item instrument yielded an overall Cronbach's alpha of .87 which was judged adequate for future research. The second study was conducted with 83 students drawn from two human relations classes and a seminar on death and dying. Cronbach's alpha correlation coefficients, test - retest reliability coefficients, and dependent t-tests further confirmed the validity of the five subscales and the total scale score. (CP)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED167618

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM (AOCSF): AN INSTRUMENT TO AID IN THE MEASUREMENT, IDENTIFICATION, AND ASSESSMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S "ADAPTATIONAL APPROACH(ES)" TO THE STRESSFUL EVENT OF DEATH AND RELATED ISSUES

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Ronald Klein
Joseph LaCamera
Isadore Newman
David M. Weis

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Isadore Newman

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC) AND USERS OF THE ERIC SYSTEM."

The University of Akron

TM008 432

Presented at the American Educational Research Association (A.E.R.A.), Toronto, Canada, March 1978.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM (AOCSF): AN INSTRUMENT TO AID IN THE MEASUREMENT, IDENTIFICATION, AND ASSESSMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S "ADAPTATIONAL APPROACH(ES)" TO THE STRESSFUL EVENT OF DEATH AND RELATED ISSUES

JOSEPH LACAMERA
Testing and Counseling Bureau
The University of Akron

ISADORE NEWMAN
College of Education
Educational Foundations
The University of Akron

DAVID M. WEIS
College of Education
Counseling & Special Education
The University of Akron

RONALD J. KLEIN
Chief Forensic Psychologist
Western Reserve Rehabilitation Hospital

ABSTRACT

After reviewing a number of studies related to death and dying, counseling approaches with the dying and the deceased's family and friends, and death-related college courses and discussion groups, the investigators believed that it would be helpful for members of the helping professions to be able to effectively measure, identify and assess an individual's "Adaptational Approach(es)" to the sudden knowledge of his/her dying and death, or the knowledge of a significant others' dying and eventual death. With this objective in mind, the investigators developed a 50 item instrument, the Alpha-Omega Completed Sentence Form (AOCSF), to aid professionals in measuring and identifying various "Adaptational Approach(es)" that different individual's might use when confronted with the issues of death and dying. Based upon the research findings, the investigators are examining a number of educational and counseling strategies to aid professionals working in the area of death and dying.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM (AOCSF): AN INSTRUMENT TO AID IN THE MEASUREMENT, IDENTIFICATION, AND ASSESSMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S "ADAPTATIONAL APPROACH(ES)" TO THE STRESSFUL EVENT OF DEATH AND RELATED ISSUES

JOSEPH LACAMERA
Testing and Counseling Bureau
The University of Akron

ISADORE NEWMAN
College of Education
Educational Foundations
The University of Akron

DAVID M. WEIS
College of Education
Counseling & Special Education
The University of Akron

RONALD J. KLEIN
Chief Forensic Psychologist
Western Reserve Rehabilitation Hospital

SUMMARY

Perspective

The topic of death and related issues has created a surge of public interest within the last few years because individuals seem more willing to express themselves openly about the area of death. Evidence for this sudden increase in interest in the topic of death and related areas comes from a number of sources. For example, Leviton (1975) reviewed the various media dealing with dying and death and found that the number of college and university courses dealing with these topics has risen from a handful of course offerings to a large number of death-related courses. He also found a substantial number of recent books, newspapers, television documentaries and reports addressing themselves to the issues of dying and death. Schneidman (1971) found that a large number of "Psychology Today" readers (approximately 30,000) responded to a 75 item questionnaire related to the topic of death. Not only did people respond to the questionnaire, but, in addition, many individuals were willing to include personal letters addressed to the editor disclosing their personal experiences with the topic area.

According to Perls (Fagan & Shepherd cited Perls, 1970), "the basic problem not only of therapy but of life is how to make life livable for a being whose dominant characteristic is his awareness of himself as a unique individual on the one hand and of his mortality on the other. The first gives him a feeling of overwhelming importance and the other a feeling of fear and frustration." (p. 128). In further support of Perls' thesis, Becker (1973) describes man as being "split in two...(because) he has an awareness of his own splendid uniqueness...and yet he goes back into the ground a few feet in order to blindly and dumbly rot and disappear forever." (p. 26) Finally, the number of research studies that have been conducted relating to dying and death within the past few years are voluminous (Bluestone, 1962; Chandler, 1965; Collett, 1969; Feifel, 1959, 1977; Hinderhofer, 1976; Hinton, 1963; Jeffers, Nichols & Eisodorfer, 1961; Johnson, 1964; Kalish, 1966; Kubler-Ross, 1969, 1973; Maurer, 1964; Moody, 1975; Nagy, 1959; Shultz, 1977; Templer, Ruff & Franks, 1971).

After reviewing a number of past studies dealing with the topic of death and related areas, the investigators believed that it would be helpful for counselors, social workers, psychologists, physicians, educators and other psycho-socio-educational personnel to be able to effectively measure, identify and assess an individual's "Adaptational Approach(es)" to the sudden knowledge of his/her dying and eventual death, or the sudden knowledge of a significant others' (parents, children, spouse, friends) dying and death. The value of this knowledge is to increase the individual's awareness of his/her mortality in order to gain a much broader perspective of one's life. In order to accomplish these goals, the investigators began development of the Alpha-Omega Completed Sentence Form (AOCSF) to measure and identify the "Adaptational Approach(es)" a person uses when confronted with information concerning his/her imminent death or the possible death of a loved one. This

approach to the topic of death and dying focuses on attitudes, beliefs, thoughts, and feelings of non-dying persons who might not otherwise think of their inevitable dying and eventual death until a much later time in their life.

These "Adaptational Approach(es)" as measured by the AOCSF should be thought of as being quite fluid and mutable, not fixed and rigid. The "Adaptational Approach(es)" are constantly changing and being modified in accordance with new information about the stressful events that are taking place both within and outside a person's body. Very importantly, in contrast to the more popularized "stage theory" approach (initially presented by Kubler-Ross, 1969), the "Adaptational Approach(es)" take into consideration the individual's uniqueness as a person rather than the wholesale acceptance of the individual acting out specific developmental stages in the dying process. Thus, the person assimilates new information about his/her stressful condition(s) (in this particular case, dying and impending death), and then accommodates this input to minimize his/her own pain and suffering (bio-physically, psycho-socially, and existential-spiritually) and maximize their adaptation to the stressful event(s).

Methodology and Data Source

Procedures: In order to construct an instrument that adequately examines the various "Adaptational Approach(es)" that an individual might be in or passes through, the investigators examined the popularized pioneer work of Kubler-Ross (1969). Conceptually her "stage theory" approach to dying and death deals with five psychological stages of the dying process. The investigators believed that Kubler-Ross' conceptualization of the five stages

of the dying process would be the most appropriate starting point for developing items which would facilitate the assessment of an individual's "Adaptational Approach(es)" to stressful events. Items for the instrument were developed by individuals who have been teaching and counseling in the area of death and related areas for a number of years. Both expert judge and content validity were established with a pool of 304 items in order to adequately examine the manner in which subjects would respond to the stressful event of one's dying and death. After the two types of validity were established by the investigators, all 304 items were analyzed to examine which specific items were most highly reliable as measured by Cronbach's Alpha method (internal-consistency reliability). A second validity check was established by having three independent expert judges rate the original pool of 304 items into the five psychological stages of the dying process as presented by Kubler-Ross (1969). The three expert judges aided in further establishing validity and reliability on the instrument with the added advantage of shortening the form to 50 items while still maintaining high internal consistency reliability coefficients.

Samples: The Ss (N=77) who comprised the pilot study were drawn from college students who were attending a large Midwestern University located in the State of Ohio. The Ss (N=83) from the second research study (validation group) also attended the same Midwestern University located in Ohio.

Statistics: Three primary statistical procedures were utilized with the research data. First, the AOCSF was examined for reliability to determine the correlation coefficients of internal consistency as measured by Cronbach's Alpha technique. Veldman's computer package "Testat" was utilized to obtain item means, standard deviations, subscale alpha coefficients, a total overall scale alpha coefficient, the point biserial correlations between each

item and its own scale and total scale, and the percentages of samples using each possible item choice. Cronbach's Alpha procedure is the general case of KR-20 (all possible split-halves are analyzed). Secondly, test-retest reliability coefficients were obtained on all five psychological subscales and the overall scale score using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficients. Finally, a number of t-Tests relationships were examined using dependent t-Test measures in order to determine significant changes within the five psychological subscales and the total scale score with one group of Ss (N=18) who were attending a ten-week course (one-three hour session per week) entitled "Seminar in Death and Dying."

Research and Conclusions to Date

Two preliminary studies have been conducted in the process of developing the Alpha-Omega Completed Sentence Form (AOCSF). The first research study (pilot study) was conducted with 77 Ss who were comprised of both graduate and undergraduate college students. These Ss were administered the original pool of 304 items. A Cronbach's Alpha Correlation Coefficient of .90 was obtained with this sample of Ss using the total item pool of 304 questions. These results indicate that the pool of items had a high degree of internal consistency. Upon closer examination, the correlation coefficients using Cronbach's Alpha method for the five psychological constructs as presented by Kubler-Ross were as follows: (1) Denial Scale (r=.79; 85 items), (2) Anger Scale (r=.90; 65 items), (3) Bargaining (r=.81; 24 items), (4) Depression (r=.85; 51 items), and (5) Acceptance Scale (r=.91; 79 items). Next, the investigators selected out the best 50 items (10 items from each of the five psychological constructs) from

the original 304 item pool to see if the instrument would maintain acceptable internal consistency correlation coefficients. The 50 item instrument yielded an overall Cronbach's Alpha of .87 which was believed to be adequate to use for future research purposes. The five psychological constructs produced the following coefficients: (1) Denial Scale (r=.81;10 items), (2) Anger Scale (r=.82;10 items), (3) Bargaining Scale (r=.75; 10 items), (4) Depression Scale (r=.72; 10 items), and (5) Acceptance Scale (r=.86;10 items).

The second study (validation study) was conducted with 83 Ss who were drawn from two Human Relations Classes (N=65) and a Seminar in Death and Dying (N=18). Cronbach's Alpha internal consistency correlation coefficients and Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficients were utilized to examine the data. In addition, dependent t-Tests were used to determine if there were any significant differences between the pre- and posttest scores on the five subscales and total score scale for the Ss within the Death and Dying Seminar.

Cronbach's Alpha correlation coefficients for both the subscales and total scale score for the pre- and posttest measures with the Human Relations classes (N=65) were as follows: I Pretest -- (1) Denial Scale (r=.66; 10 items), (2) Anger Scale (r=.72; 10 items), (3) Bargaining Scale (r=.59; 10 items), (4) Depression Scale (r=.69; 10 items), (5) Acceptance Scale (r=.75; 10 items), and the Total Scale Score (r=.79; 50 items); II Posttest -- (1) Denial Scale (r=.71; 10 items), (2) Anger Scale (r=.78; 10 items), (3) Bargaining Scale (r=.70; 10 items), (4) Depression Scale (r=.76; 10 items), (5) Acceptance Scale (r=.80; 10 items), and the Total Scale Score (r=.82; 50 items). Both the pre- and the posttest measures produced high total scale coefficients and adequate subscale coefficients for the investigators to believe that the five psychological scales were measuring independent

constructs. All of the above scores reported were analyzed in accordance with a correct choice scoring procedure determined by two expert judges who established a pathological versus non-pathological scoring response to each of the 50 items comprising the AOCSF. One hundred percent agreement was obtained between both judges before an item's responses (True/False) were judged to be pathological or non-pathological.

Test-retest reliability coefficients utilizing Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficients with the five subscales and the total scale score for the two samples of Ss were as follows: I Death & Dying Group -- (1) Denial Scale (r=.44;p=.03), (2) Anger Scale (r=.40;p=.05), (3) Bargaining Scale (r=.74; p=.00), (4) Depression Scale (r=.58;.01), (5) Acceptance Scale (r=.74;p=.00), and the Total Scale Score (r=.72;p=.00); II Human Relations Group -- (1) Denial Scale (r=.66;p=.00), (2) Anger Scale (r=.55;p=.00), (3) Bargaining Scale (r=.74; p=.00), (4) Depression Scale (r=.74;p=.00), (5) Acceptance Scale (r=.86;p=.00), and the Total Scale Score (r=.73;p=.00). Once again, all of the above scores were analyzed with a correct choice scoring key based upon a one hundred percent agreement between two expert judges.

Dependent t-Tests examining signigicant changes between the pre- and posttest measures with the Death and Dying group produced the following results: (1) Denial Scale (t=1.61;p=.06), (2) Anger Scale (t=2.66;p=.01), (3) Bargaining Scale (t=-1.11;p=.14), (4) Depression Scale (t=-.13;p=.45), (5) Acceptance Scale (t=1.56;p=.07), and the Total Scale Score (t=2.18;p=.02). All data were analyzed with a correct choice scoring key based upon a one hundred percent agreement between two expert judges. Four out of the six dependent t-Tests were in the hypothesized direction [going from a more pathological score (pretest) to a less pathological score (posttest)];

however, only two of the hypotheses obtained statistically significant results at the .05 alpha level.

At this time a number of different educational and counseling strategies are being examined in order to aid psycho-socio-educational personnel in better understanding the various "Adaptational Approach(es)" that individuals may use in adapting to the stressful event of one's own possible dying and impending death. In addition, further research studies will focus on examining how samples of cancer patients (both terminal and non-terminal) and other groups respond to the AOCSF. Finally, a discussion will be presented to support both the new philosophy and semantics of the "Adaptational Approach(es)" in contrast to the more popularized and commonly accepted "stage theory" approach (Kubler-Ross, 1969).

A P P E N D I X I

ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM ITEMS AND THE PATHOLOGICAL DIRECTION FOR CORRECT SCORING ACCORDING TO TWO EXPERT JUDGES

TABLE 1

ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM ITEMS BY SUBSCALES AND THE PATHOLOGICAL DIRECTION FOR CORRECT SCORING ACCORDING TO TWO EXPERT JUDGES

I) DENIAL SCALE (10 ITEMS)	PATHOLOGICAL SCORING KEY
1. I do not like to attend funerals.	TRUE
2. I try to avoid looking at a dead person if I can.	TRUE
3. I prefer to wait until the last possible moment to see the dead body of a close friend or relative.	TRUE
4. Whenever I talk with someone about death, I like to use the terms "passed away", "expired", "kicked the bucket", "met his maker", "the end of the road", or "was taken home."	TRUE
5. The thought of touching a dead body is terrifying to me.	TRUE
6. If a close friend or relative dies, I would wait until the last possible moment to view the dead body.	TRUE
7. I try as best I can to control my emotions when I see a dead body.	TRUE
8. I have not talked to anyone about what to do in the event of my death.	TRUE
9. I would get very upset if I had to touch a dead body.	TRUE
10. I get uptight and tense when I have to attend funerals.	TRUE

II) ANGER SCALE (10 ITEMS)	PATHOLOGICAL SCORING KEY
1. I believe that anyone who seriously violates the law should be given capital punishment.	TRUE
2. I get very upset when I think about death and dying because I have so many things that I still want to accomplish in life.	TRUE
3. I am afraid to think about my own death.	TRUE
4. When I think about death, I get scared.	TRUE
5. When I think about my own death, I get very anxious and scared.	TRUE
6. I believe that capital punishment is a good means of punishing persons who seriously violate the law.	TRUE
7. Generally speaking, I believe that death is a terrible experience.	TRUE
8. I am glad that we still use capital punishment for serious violations of the law.	TRUE

(cont.)

TABLE 1 (CONT.)

9.	When I think about my like, I get angry at the things I wanted to do but never did.	TRUE
10.	I get scared when I think about dying.	TRUE

III)	BARGAINING SCALE (10 ITEMS)	PATHOLOGICAL SCORING KEY
1.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would like to live in great luxury.	TRUE
2.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would like to accomplish something important for mankind.	TRUE
3.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would try to do everything possible to prolong my life.	TRUE
4.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would like to study more about my religion.	TRUE
5.	If I knew that I only have one year to live, I would give all my material goods to a worthy cause.	TRUE
6.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would travel throughout the country.	TRUE
7.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would travel to see all my close friends and relatives.	TRUE
8.	If I found out that I only had a short time to live, I would travel throughout the country.	TRUE
9.	If I knew that I only had one year to live, I would like to do something significant for my country, medical field, etc.	TRUE
10.	If I found out that I only had a short time to live, I would do everything that I possible could to prolong my life.	TRUE

IV)	DEPRESSION SCALE (10 ITEMS)	PATHOLOGICAL SCORING KEY
1.	I believe that I will probably die of some disease or accident.	TRUE
2.	I believe that I have caused others to suffer and to be in pain.	TRUE
3.	I think about death and dying almost every day.	TRUE
4.	I know that I have done something to cause suffering and pain to others.	TRUE
5.	I think about death quite often before I go to sleep.	TRUE
6.	I think about death and dying regardless of who is with me.	TRUE
7.	When I am by myself, I think about death and dying.	TRUE
8.	I believe that I will have to suffer and be in pain before I finally die.	TRUE

(CONT.) 14

TABLE 1 (CONT.)

9.	Even when I am with people, I still think about death and dying.	TRUE
10.	Generally speaking, when I am alone I usually think about death and dying.	TRUE

V)	ACCEPTANCE SCALE (10 ITEMS)	PATHOLOGICAL SCORING KEY
1.	I am very willing to talk with a dying person about death.	FALSE
2.	Those persons close to me know my last wishes and preferences with respect to my funeral and burial arrangements.	FALSE
3.	I have told others close to me how I want to be buried.	FALSE
4.	I have talked openly to my relatives about what to do in the event of my death.	FALSE
5.	I have told others close to me what type of funeral ceremony I would prefer, and how I want to be buried.	FALSE
6.	I would not be afraid to see someone die.	FALSE
7.	I feel comfortable knowing that if I should die that those close to me know my last wishes and desires.	FALSE
8.	I usually visit those close friends and relatives who are in the process of dying.	FALSE
9.	I have told others close to me how I want to be buried and what type of funeral ceremony I would prefer.	FALSE
10.	I have been in the presence of a dead person whithout being uptight and tense.	FALSE

Note. Some items within each scale are similar enough to other items within the same scale to be used for a consistency check for that subscale and total test. Other items are similar to items within there own scale, but are different enough to be used as a separate item because of the additional information that the item gives.

A P P E N D I X II

CRONBACH'S ALPHA COEFFICIENTS FOR SUBSCALES AND TOTAL SCALE, TOTAL AND SUBSCAL POINT BI-SERIALS, AND CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS IN PERCENTAGES ON THE ABPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE PILOT SAMPLE CONTAINING 77 SS

TABLE 2

NUMBER OF ITEMS PER SUBSCALE, TOTAL MEAN SCORES, STANDARD DEVIATIONS, AND SUBSCALE AND TOTAL SCALE CRONBACH'S ALPHA COEFFICIENTS WITH THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM ON THE PILOT SAMPLE CONTAINING 77 SUBJECTS.

ITEM N	1 10.0000	2 10.0000	3 10.0000	4 10.0000	5 10.0000	6 50.0000
TOTALS	1 3.4805	2 3.0260	3 5.5065	4 2.7662	5 5.0130	6 19.7922
SIGMAS	1 2.7045	2 2.8145	3 2.6659	4 2.2729	5 3.2970	6 8.4413
	DENIAL	ANGER	BARGAINING	DEPRESSION	ACCEPTANCE	TOTAL
ALPHAS	1 0.8109	2 0.8237	3 0.7476	4 0.7201	5 0.8641	6 0.8687

Note. The Cronbach's Alpha Coefficients were obtained by using a correct choice scoring key which was determined by two expert judges using 100% agreement as the criterion.

TABLE 3

ITEM NUMBER, SCALE NUMBER, MEAN, STANDARD DEVIATION, TOTAL POINT BISERIAL CORRELATION, AND SUB-SCALE POINT BISERIAL CORRELATION FOR EACH ITEM ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE PILOT SAMPLE CONTAINING 77 SUBJECTS

ITEM	SCALE	MEAN	SIGMA	R(TOTAL)	R(SCALE)
1	3	0.39	0.488	0.5213	0.5874
2	2	0.34	0.473	0.4112	0.6374
3	4	0.60	0.490	0.1806	0.4865
4	1	0.61	0.488	0.4653	0.5949
5	5	0.32	0.469	0.2536	0.5441
6	2	0.35	0.477	0.6178	0.6701
7	5	0.53	0.499	0.5135	0.7616
8	5	0.57	0.495	0.3984	0.7437
9	3	0.77	0.423	0.1245	0.4848
10	4	0.32	0.468	0.0466	0.4618
11	1	0.32	0.468	0.5296	0.7382
12	1	0.23	0.423	0.3808	0.6507
13	4	0.17	0.375	0.1384	0.4734
14	3	0.58	0.493	0.4163	0.6050
15	2	0.19	0.396	0.5210	0.6945
16	4	0.40	0.490	0.0758	0.5039
17	4	0.14	0.350	0.3046	0.6298
18	4	0.30	0.458	0.1236	0.5041
19	2	0.27	0.445	0.5989	0.6678
20	2	0.23	0.423	0.4753	0.6927
21	5	0.60	0.490	0.4652	0.7743
22	3	0.36	0.481	0.2137	0.2513
23	2	0.39	0.488	0.3825	0.6455
24	1	0.19	0.396	0.4122	0.3855
25	3	0.45	0.498	0.1461	0.4136
26	3	0.52	0.500	0.4444	0.7092
27	2	0.19	0.396	0.4394	0.4964
28	4	0.21	0.406	0.2932	0.6442
29	1	0.23	0.423	0.5225	0.6734
30	3	0.70	0.458	0.1688	0.6030
31	5	0.60	0.490	0.4880	0.8386
32	4	0.14	0.350	0.4585	0.4175
33	3	0.53	0.499	0.3315	0.6662
34	2	0.44	0.497	0.3720	0.6051
35	4	0.30	0.458	-0.0713	0.6289
36	1	0.19	0.396	0.5482	0.7250
37	4	0.18	0.386	0.2230	0.6411
38	1	0.21	0.406	0.5094	0.7612
39	1	0.69	0.463	0.3322	0.4928
40	3	0.64	0.481	0.2085	0.5993
41	3	0.56	0.497	0.3623	0.6006
42	5	0.43	0.495	0.5187	0.6254
43	5	0.43	0.495	0.4130	0.6652
44	5	0.52	0.500	0.3120	0.4768
45	2	0.34	0.473	0.4438	0.4910
46	5	0.60	0.490	0.4817	0.8305
47	2	0.27	0.445	0.4953	0.6367
48	1	0.44	0.497	0.4928	0.3352
49	5	0.42	0.493	0.3236	0.4443
50	1	0.35	0.477	0.5727	0.7651

TABLE 4

ITEM NUMBER, CORRECT-CHOICE SCORING KEY, AND CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS IN PERCENTAGES FOR EACH ITEM ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE PILOT SAMPLE CONTAINING 77 SS

ITEM	REV	KEY	ZERO	CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS (PERCENTAGES) TRUE[1]	FALSE[2]
1	0	1	0	39	61
2	0	1	1	34	65
3	0	1	1	60	39
4	0	1	0	61	39
5	0	2	0	68	32
6	0	1	1	35	64
7	0	2	0	47	53
8	0	2	0	43	57
9	0	1	0	77	23
10	0	1	0	32	68
11	0	1	0	32	68
12	0	1	0	23	77
13	0	1	0	17	83
14	0	1	0	58	42
15	0	1	0	19	81
16	0	1	0	40	60
17	0	1	0	14	86
18	0	1	0	30	70
19	0	1	0	27	73
20	0	1	0	23	77
21	0	2	1	39	60
22	0	1	0	36	64
23	0	1	0	39	61
24	0	1	0	19	81
25	0	1	0	45	55
26	0	1	0	52	48
27	0	1	0	19	81
28	0	1	0	21	79
29	0	1	0	23	77
30	0	1	0	70	30
31	0	2	0	40	60
32	0	1	0	14	86
33	0	1	0	53	47
34	0	1	0	44	56
35	0	1	0	30	70
36	0	1	0	19	81
37	0	1	0	18	82
38	0	1	0	21	79
39	0	1	0	69	31
40	0	1	0	64	36
41	0	1	0	56	44
42	0	2	0	57	43
43	0	2	0	57	43
44	0	2	1	47	52
45	0	1	0	34	66
46	0	2	0	40	60
47	0	1	0	27	73
48	0	1	0	44	56
49	0	2	0	58	42
50	0	1	0	35	65

APPENDIX III

CRONBACH'S ALPHA COEFFICIENTS FOR SUBSCALES AND TOTAL SCALE, TOTAL AND SUBSCALE POINT BI-SERIALS, AND CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS IN PERCENTAGES ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE VALIDATION SAMPLE CONTAINING 65 SS - PRETEST

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF ITEMS PER SUBSCALE, TOTAL MEAN SCORES, STANDARD DEVIATIONS, AND SUBSCALE AND TOTAL SCALE CRONBACH'S ALPHA COEFFICIENTS WITH THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM ON THE VALIDATION SAMPLE CONTAINING 65 SUBJECTS - PRETEST

ITEM N	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000	50.0000
TOTALS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	4.2769	3.7846	5.3846	2.9846	5.9077	22.3385
SIGMAS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	2.2015	2.5570	2.2783	2.2497	2.6702	6.9244
	DENIAL	ANGER	BARGAINING	DEPRESSION	ACCEPTANCE	TOTAL
ALPHAS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	0.6630	0.7205	0.5912	0.6945	0.7550	0.7892

Note. The Cronbach's Alpha Coefficients were obtained by using a correct choice scoring key which was determined by two expert judges using 100% agreement as the criterion.

TABLE 6

ITEM NUMBER, SCALE NUMBER, MEANS, STANDARD DEVIATIONS, TOTAL POINT BISERIAL CORRELATIONS, AND SUBSCALE POINT BISERIAL CORRELATIONS FOR EACH ITEM ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE VALIDATION SAMPLE OF 65 SS - PRETEST

ITEM	SCALE	MEAN	SIGMA	R(TOTAL)	R(SCALE)
1	3	0.52	0.499	0.2913	0.4451
2	2	0.40	0.490	0.2231	0.3513
3	4	0.51	0.500	-0.0056	0.3626
4	1	0.82	0.388	0.0863	0.4021
5	5	0.52	0.499	0.3314	0.2654
6	2	0.31	0.462	0.4632	0.5255
7	5	0.68	0.468	0.2381	0.7400
8	1	0.28	0.447	0.1783	0.4844
9	3	0.60	0.490	0.2803	0.5376
10	4	0.49	0.500	0.1652	0.6907
11	5	0.65	0.478	0.2778	0.7938
12	1	0.42	0.493	0.4142	0.5463
13	4	0.12	0.329	0.3807	0.6478
14	3	0.58	0.493	0.5146	0.5123
15	2	0.29	0.455	0.4913	0.5965
16	4	0.46	0.499	0.0928	0.5825
17	4	0.15	0.361	0.1639	0.4768
18	4	0.17	0.375	0.0372	0.3678
19	2	0.42	0.493	0.6531	0.7425
20	5	0.69	0.462	0.4033	0.7260
21	2	0.43	0.495	0.3255	0.5957
22	1	0.26	0.439	0.1428	0.2909
23	3	0.48	0.499	0.0378	0.0822
24	2	0.32	0.468	0.4698	0.5600
25	2	0.28	0.447	0.5066	0.6034
26	3	0.57	0.495	0.2130	0.5832
27	4	0.35	0.478	0.1590	0.4913
28	3	0.40	0.490	0.0780	0.2205
29	1	0.23	0.421	0.4056	0.5946
30	5	0.72	0.447	0.2586	0.7383
31	4	0.31	0.462	0.3285	0.5528
32	3	0.58	0.493	0.4244	0.5808
33	2	0.46	0.499	0.2365	0.4883
34	4	0.22	0.411	0.2933	0.5525
35	1	0.23	0.421	0.3213	0.6443
36	1	0.75	0.431	0.3426	0.5261
37	3	0.43	0.495	0.2357	0.5486
38	1	0.17	0.375	0.3572	0.5356
39	5	0.65	0.478	0.3475	0.3480
40	4	0.20	0.400	0.3755	0.4821
41	3	0.57	0.495	0.2758	0.5832
42	5	0.55	0.497	0.2584	0.7108
43	5	0.42	0.493	0.1166	0.3214
44	2	0.51	0.500	0.2215	0.1818
45	2	0.37	0.483	0.6624	0.7127
46	5	0.37	0.483	0.2665	0.1578
47	1	0.62	0.487	0.4268	0.3006
48	1	0.51	0.500	0.3592	0.6690
49	3	0.65	0.478	0.5148	0.5345
50	5	0.66	0.473	0.3026	0.8398

TABLE 7

ITEM NUMBER, CORRECT-CHOICE SCORING KEY, AND CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS IN PERCENTAGES FOR EACH ITEM ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE VALIDATION SAMPLE OF 65 SS-PRETEST

ITEM	REV	KEY	ZERO	CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS (PERCENTAGES) 1 TRUE	2 FALSE
1	0	1	0	52	48
2	0	1	0	40	60
3	0	1	0	51	49
4	0	1	0	82	18
5	0	2	0	48	52
6	0	1	0	31	69
7	0	2	0	32	68
8	0	1	0	28	72
9	0	1	0	60	40
10	0	1	0	49	51
11	0	2	0	35	65
12	0	1	0	42	58
13	0	1	0	12	88
14	0	1	0	58	42
15	0	1	0	29	71
16	0	1	0	46	54
17	0	1	0	15	85
18	0	1	0	17	83
19	0	1	0	42	58
20	0	2	0	31	69
21	0	1	0	43	57
22	0	1	0	26	74
23	0	1	0	48	52
24	0	1	2	32	66
25	0	1	0	28	72
26	0	1	2	57	42
27	0	1	0	35	65
28	0	1	0	40	60
29	0	1	2	23	75
30	0	2	0	28	72
31	0	1	0	31	69
32	0	1	0	58	42
33	0	1	3	46	51
34	0	1	0	22	78
35	0	1	0	23	77
36	0	1	0	75	25
37	0	1	0	43	57
38	0	1	0	17	83
39	0	2	0	35	65
40	0	1	0	20	80
41	0	1	0	57	43
42	0	2	0	45	55
43	0	2	2	57	42
44	0	1	0	51	49
45	0	1	0	37	63
46	0	2	0	63	37
47	0	1	0	62	38
48	0	1	0	51	49
49	0	1	0	65	35
50	0	2	0	34	66

A P P E N D I X IV

CRONBACH'S ALPHA COEFFICIENTS FOR SUBSCALES AND TOTAL SCALE, TOTAL AND SUBSCALE POINT BI-SERIALS, AND CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS IN PERCENTAGES ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE VALIDATION SAMPLE CONTAINING 65 SS--POSTTEST

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF ITEMS PER SUBSCALE, TOTAL MEAN SCORES, STANDARD DEVIATIONS, AND SUBSCALE AND TOTAL SCALE CRONBACH'S ALPHA COEFFICIENTS WITH THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM ON THE VALIDATION SAMPLE CONTAINING 65 SUBJECTS--POSTTEST

ITEM N	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000	50.0000
TOTALS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	3.6154	3.2769	6.1692	3.0154	6.0154	22.0923
SIGMAS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	2.2374	2.6574	2.4842	2.4651	2.8093	7.2510
	DENIAL	ANGER	BARGAINING	DEPRESSION	ACCEPTANCE	TOTAL
ALPHAS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	0.7062	0.7824	0.6974	0.7606	0.7587	0.8196

Note. The Cronbach's Alpha Coefficients were obtained by using a correct choice scoring key which was determined by two expert judges using 100% agreement as the criterion.

TABLE 9

ITEM NUMBER, SCALE NUMBER, MEANS, STANDARD DEVIATIONS, TOTAL POINT BISERIAL CORRELATIONS, AND SUBSCALE POINT BISERIAL CORRELATIONS FOR EACH ITEM ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETED SENTENCE FORM WITH THE VALIDATION SAMPLE OF 65 SS--POSTTEST

ITEM	SCALE	MEAN	SIGMA	R(TOTAL)	R(SCALE)
1	3	0.60	0.491	C.3179	0.5360
2	2	0.42	0.493	0.4586	0.6170
3	4	0.51	0.500	C.1526	0.5180
4	1	0.75	0.431	C.1695	0.5562
5	5	0.46	0.499	C.4096	0.3135
6	2	0.37	0.483	C.5882	0.6161
7	5	0.71	0.455	C.2927	0.7862
8	1	0.18	0.388	0.4533	0.6666
9	3	0.77	0.421	C.3595	0.6547
10	4	0.45	0.497	C.0910	0.5468
11	5	0.71	0.455	C.2787	0.8223
12	1	0.29	0.455	C.3604	0.6396
13	4	0.15	0.361	C.3180	0.6201
14	3	0.58	0.494	0.4284	0.4596
15	2	0.20	0.400	C.5930	0.7150
16	4	0.49	0.500	0.1402	0.6055
17	4	0.09	0.289	0.0839	0.4508
18	4	0.25	0.431	C.1593	0.6049
19	2	0.31	0.462	C.6029	0.6831
20	5	0.77	0.421	C.1480	0.7179
21	2	0.45	0.497	C.3813	C.5354
22	1	0.31	C.4c2	0.0789	0.2036
23	3	0.57	0.495	C.2724	0.3469
24	2	0.20	0.400	0.2589	0.2953
25	2	0.22	0.411	C.6178	0.6777
26	3	0.65	0.478	0.1248	0.6203
27	4	0.35	0.478	C.2958	0.6610
28	3	0.43	0.495	C.1475	0.3034
29	1	0.17	0.375	0.5235	0.5911
30	5	0.71	0.455	C.2787	0.7862
31	4	0.31	0.462	C.2719	0.5638
32	3	0.65	0.478	0.2757	C.4001
33	2	0.46	0.499	C.4161	0.5771
34	4	0.22	0.411	C.2153	0.6344
35	1	0.23	0.421	C.3556	0.6490
36	1	0.66	0.473	C.3008	0.5164
37	3	0.63	0.483	0.2735	0.6681
38	1	0.08	0.266	C.4104	C.5399
39	5	0.49	0.500	0.3185	C.4218
40	4	0.20	0.400	C.2801	0.4494
41	3	0.63	0.483	0.2324	0.6424
42	5	0.60	0.490	0.2103	C.7646
43	5	0.48	0.499	C.2937	0.3127
44	2	0.45	0.497	C.3642	0.3840
45	2	0.22	0.411	0.6024	0.7622
46	5	0.37	0.483	0.4167	0.3249
47	1	0.62	0.487	C.3502	0.2881
48	1	0.32	0.468	C.4041	0.6481
49	3	0.66	0.473	C.4759	0.5853
50	5	0.72	0.447	.0.2307	0.8111

TABLE 10

ITEM NUMBER, CORRECT-CHOICE SCORING KEY, AND CHOICE DISTRIBUTION IN PERCENTAGES FOR EACH ITEM ON THE ALPHA-OMEGA COMPLETE SENTENCE FORM WITH THE VALIDATION SAMPLE OF 65 SS— POSTTEST

ITEM	REV	KEY	ZERO	CHOICE DISTRIBUTIONS (PERCENTAGES) TRUE	FALSE
1	0	1	0	60	40
2	0	1	0	42	58
3	0	1	0	51	49
4	0	1	0	75	25
5	0	2	0	54	46
6	0	1	0	37	63
7	0	2	0	29	71
8	0	1	0	18	82
9	0	1	0	77	23
10	0	1	0	45	55
11	0	2	0	29	71
12	0	1	2	29	69
13	0	1	0	15	85
14	0	1	0	58	42
15	0	1	0	20	80
16	0	1	0	49	51
17	0	1	0	9	91
18	0	1	0	25	75
19	0	1	0	31	69
20	0	2	0	23	77
21	0	1	0	45	55
22	0	1	0	31	69
23	0	1	0	57	43
24	0	1	0	20	80
25	0	1	0	22	78
26	0	1	0	65	35
27	0	1	0	35	65
28	0	1	0	43	57
29	0	1	0	17	83
30	0	2	2	28	71
31	0	1	0	31	69
32	0	1	0	65	35
33	0	1	0	46	54
34	0	1	0	22	78
35	0	1	0	23	77
36	0	1	0	66	34
37	0	1	0	63	37
38	0	1	0	8	92
39	0	2	0	51	49
40	0	1	0	20	80
41	0	1	0	63	37
42	0	2	0	40	60
43	0	2	0	52	48
44	0	1	0	45	55
45	0	1	0	22	78
46	0	2	0	63	37
47	0	1	0	62	38
48	0	1	0	32	68
49	0	1	0	66	34
50	0	2	0	28	72